



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 35693.830003.US0

Express Mail No. EV269463184US

**DECLARATION:**

I am a corporate officer of DashAmerica, Inc., who is the 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(b) applicant of the present invention. I acknowledge that the below named inventors were the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled REDUCED SKIN ABRASION SHOE, the specification of which was filed September 10, 2003, and has a patent application serial number 10/660,411.

The persons named as inventors in this application are TRACY BYRNES and SEAN SULLIVAN.

At the time the present invention was developed, the inventors of this application were employees of DashAmerica, Inc. and they worked under my supervision.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, and a copy of the present application was sent to the last known inventors of the application to allow them to review and comment on the above-identified application.

Pursuant to the employment agreements of the inventors, they acknowledged ownership of the invention associated with the present application resided with DashAmerica, Inc. and agreed to execute the necessary paperwork to assign the entire right, title, and interest in the present application to DashAmerica, Inc.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56. If this application is identified above as a continuation-in-part application above, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to us to be material to patentability as defined in §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of this continuation-in-part application.

No prior foreign application for patent or inventors' certificate has been filed.

No Priority claim is made.

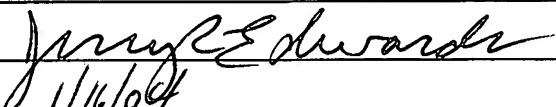
**POWER OF ATTORNEY:**

As the 37 C.F.R. §1.47(b) applicant, I hereby appoint Brian P. Kinnear, Reg. No. 43,717, Francis A. Sirr, Reg. No. 17,265, Chris Kulish, Reg. No. 33,056, L. Grant Foster, Reg.

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No. 33,236, Trent Baker, Reg. No. 46,534, James R. Farmer, Reg. No. 47,555, Thomas Osborne, Reg. No. 39,796; and Christopher Wight, Reg. No. 31,680; to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Send all correspondence to: Brian Kinnear, HOLLAND & HART LLP, 555 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3200, Denver, Colorado 80202-3979, and direct telephone calls to Brian Kinnear, telephone number 303-295-8170.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Applicant's Full Name:	DashAmerica, Inc.
Applicant's Corporate Officer	Jerry Edwards President
Inventor's Signature:	
Date:	1/16/04
Residence: (City, State and/or Country)	620 Compton St. Broomfield, CO. 80020
Citizenship:	USA
Post Address Office:	(same as above)

**§ 1.56 duty to disclose information material to patentability.**

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a *prima facie* case of unpatentability of a claim; or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

- (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A *prima facie* case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
  - (3) Each other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent or inventor.